

# Third dose of MMR vaccine can help control mumps outbreaks

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(HealthDay)—A third dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine

is recommended in cases of mumps outbreak in which transmission is sustained despite high two-dose MMR coverage, according to research published in the July 29 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Justin P. Albertson, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and colleagues conducted an investigation into a confirmed [mumps outbreak](#) in 2015. They identified 317 cases of mumps during April 2015 to May 2016.

The researchers recommended a third MMR vaccine because of sustained transmission in a population with high two-dose coverage with MMR. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices did not formally recommend for or against use of a third dose. However, the CDC provided guidelines for use of a third dose as a control measure during outbreaks in a setting in which transmission is sustained despite high two-dose MMR coverage. The final case in this outbreak occurred in May 2016.

"Although evidence of its effectiveness is needed, a third dose of MMR vaccine may be considered as a control measure during mumps outbreaks occurring in settings in which persons are in close contact with one another, when transmission is sustained despite high two-dose MMR coverage, and when traditional control measures fail to slow [transmission](#)," the authors write.

**More information:** [Full Text](#)

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